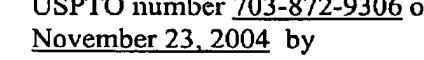


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NOV 23 2004

Docket Number: 2316-150

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of ANDERSON et al.) I hereby certify that this correspondence
Examiner: Frank W. LU) is being facsimile transmitted to the
Group Art Unit: 1634) USPTO number 703-872-9306 on
Serial No.: 10/050,102) November 23, 2004 by
Filed: January 18, 2002) 
John E. Tarca
Reg. No. 33,638

For: DETECTION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF MICROORGANISMS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 23, 2003

Dear Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Rejection mailed August 23, 2004, wherein the Examiner set a three-month period for response, this response is timely filed. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.